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## Baby Grand Program

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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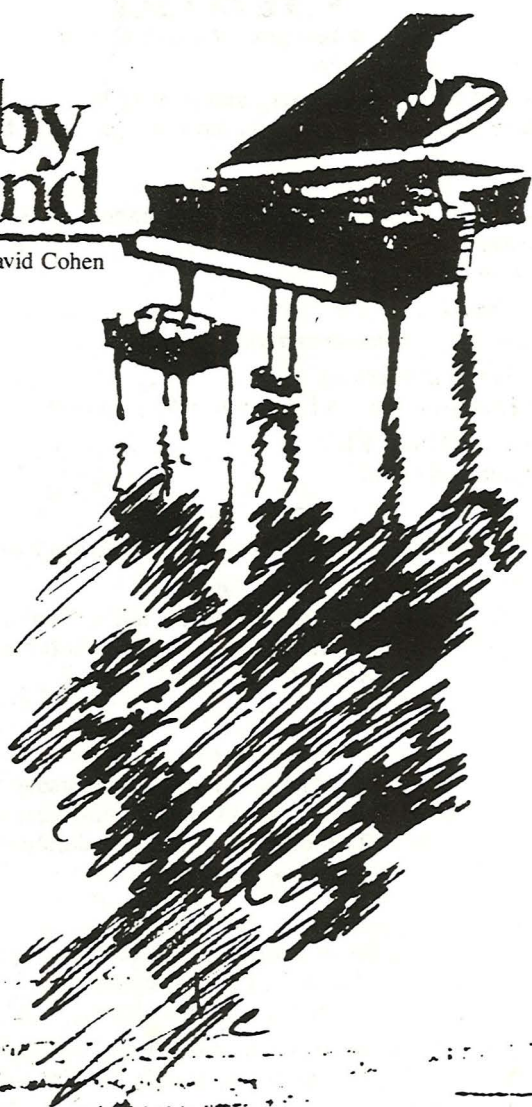
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## Russell Square Players

of the University of Southern Maine  
present the New England premiere of

# Baby Grand

a new play by David Cohen



October 17, 18, 19, 22-25, 1986  
Russell Hall  
Gorham campus

**Russell Square Players**  
present the New England premiere of

# Baby Grand

a new play by David Cohen

Directed by  
William Steele

Scenery and lighting by  
Richard David Holen

Costumes by  
Lynne Wetherell

## Cast in order of appearance

Carl Fishman.....P. Michael Bourgoïn  
*A piano tuner*  
Sam Zonderman.....Sean Casement  
*Orphan son of a famous concert pianist*  
Nathan ("Pep") Zonderman.....Robert McGurn  
*His older brother, a Harvard Business School student*  
Delmadean McDonald Klein.....Morgan Shepard  
*Piano teacher and coach*

Time: the present

Place: The Zonderman attic apartment-cum-studio, Beacon Hill, Boston

### Act I

Scene 1: Late September; mid-afternoon

Scene 2: Late November; mid-morning

Scene 3: Wednesday evening

### Intermission

### Act II

Scene 1: The next morning; Thursday

Scene 2: A few weeks later; Saturday; noon

Scene 3: The following Monday; mid-morning

### Intermission

### Act III

Scene I: April; late afternoon

Scene 2: The next evening

Scene 3: An hour later

*Baby Grand* was developed at the Writer's Theatre in New York City (staged reading); "Theatre-in-the-Works" at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst (staged reading); and at Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana. The author wishes to extend additional thanks to the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, the Millay Colony for the Arts, and the Helene Wurlitzer Foundation of New Mexico for their generous support during the writing of the play.

Special thanks to: Vincent George & Family Piano Company

The taking of photographs in this theatre is strictly prohibited. Smoking is permitted in the outside lobby only.

## Production Staff and Crews

Stage Manager.....Mary Ellen O'Hara  
Technical Director.....Thomas C. Vail  
Box Office Manager.....Mark A. Dube  
House Manager.....Kristen Hornlien  
Box Office Assistant.....Pam Traynor  
Box Office Crew.....Sheila Curtis, Shane Gilbert, Cheryl Kotavski  
Nici Lamoreaux, Julie-Ann Marshall  
Jennifer Manzi, Eileen Rosenburg  
Master Carpenter.....Thomas C. Vail  
Wardrobe Master.....Mark A. Dube  
Dresser.....Corinne Porter  
Lighting Board Operator.....Joe Murray, Stock Truslow  
Assistant Board Operator.....Steve Huss  
Sound Designer.....William Steele  
Sound Board Operator.....Andrea Booker  
Properties Master.....Pam Traynor  
Properties Crew.....Rick Gilbert

## About the Playwright

David Cohen, a native Bostonian, is a playwright, actor, director, dramaturge, and educator. He was educated at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, University of Manchester, England, and received an M.F.A. in playwriting at Brandeis University under the supervision of noted author, Israel Horovitz.

While at Brandeis, two plays—*Tanglewood* and *Friends Indeed!*—were performed off-off Broadway at the Cubiculo Theatre. After graduation, he moved to New York as a staff writer for CBS's "Bicentennial Minutes" and at age 23 was commissioned to write *Piaf—A Remembrance*. The musical opened at Broadway's Playhouse Theatre on Valentine's Day 1977.

Highlights of his subsequent work include *Where Credit is Due* (with music by Glenn Smith—Piccolo Spoleto Festival), the PBS documentary "The Incredible Dream" (narrated by Ed Asner) and three feature screenplays (including Paramount's *Friday the 13th: A New Beginning* with M. Kitrosser).

Cohen has been associated with the Provincetown Playhouse, Spoleto Festival, Champlain Shakespeare Festival, Theatre-in-the-Works, Paramount Pictures, and CBS Television. He has received fellowships from the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, the Millay Colony for the Arts, and the Wurlitzer Foundation of New Mexico. *Baby Grand* was a finalist for the Massachusetts Playwriting Fellowship and was awarded the Wabash College Playwriting Prize.

## About the Cast

**P. Michael Bourgoin** (Fishman) has performed in major roles in several area theaters including the Portland Players, the Town Players, and the Russell Square Summer Theatre, and directs for the Biddeford City Theatre. Mike is the theatre director at Bonney Eagle High School.

**Sean Casement** (Sam) is a freshman theatre major here at the University of Southern Maine. He comes to the Russell Square Players with extensive high school acting credits, including being named to the All Festival Cast three years in a row at the Maine State One-Act Play Festival. In addition to drama, Sean enjoys karate, skiing, and music. This is his RSP debut.

**Robert McGurn** (Pep) is a teacher of English at Bonney Eagle High School in Buxton, on sabbatical leave to the University of Southern Maine to earn a B.A. degree in theatre. Long active in the Buxton Town Players, he has appeared there in several shows, most recently as Father Rivard in *The Runner Stumbles*.

**Morgan Shepard** (Delmadean) is an English major here at the University of Southern Maine where she also works as the assistant editor of the **Free Press**. Morgan has gained much acting experience through her work with the Theatre Project in Brunswick and in community theatre. USM audiences will remember her performance last spring as Elizabeth Calder in the Russell Square Players Association production of *1959 Pink Thunderbird*.

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### NEXT ON THE BILL

*A History of the American Film*

by Christopher Durang

December 5 through 13

Directed by Minor Rootes

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*Baby Grand* is entered in the American College Theatre Festival.

American College Theatre Festival

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